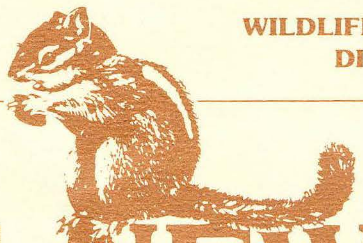
WEST VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF
NATURAL RESOURCES

WILDLIFE RESOURCES
DIVISION



WEST VIRGINIA NONGAME NEWS

VOLUME 4, NUMBER 3

SUMMER 1986

Wildlife Resources Division to Sponsor Project Wild in WV

By Art Shomo
State Project WILD Coordinator

Something WILD is coming to West Virginia. Project WILD, an interdisciplinary supplementary education program will be available this winter for interested school teachers, scout and 4-H leaders, and other youth leaders. WILD is a new program which emphasizes awareness, appreciation and understanding of wildlife. It capitalizes on children's natural interest in wildlife, providing exciting new activities that enhance student learning in all subject and skill areas.

The program was developed jointly by the Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies and the Western Regional Environmental Education Council. The latter group also developed Project Learning Tree which was successfully integrated into school systems throughout the country, including West Virginia, in the 1970's. WILD is now being used in 37 states and most of the Canadian provinces.

Project WILD consists of two activity guides — one for elementary-age children, the other for secondary-age youth. Each guide contains approximately 80 activities.

The activities were field-tested during the 1982-83 school year in Colorado, Virginia and Washington. A thorough evaluation, conducted by a researcher from the University of Colorado, showed significant gains in learning and increased appreciation of wildlife among elementary students. Teachers said the activities were stimulating and easily integrated into the school curricula.

The Project will be used mainly in the state's schools, but it will also be a valuable educational resource for 4-H and scout leaders. The supplementary nature of Project WILD is the key to its usefulness in public and private schools. It is *not* an additional unit that teachers will have to squeeze into their already crowded curricula. The instructional activities were designed by classroom teachers and other educators in cooperation with natural resources agency personnel for easy integration into school subject and skill areas. Teachers can use an individual activity as an aid in teaching a specific subject or they can organize several activities into a special instructional unit.

The Department of Natural Resources will sponsor one weekend facilitator workshop each year. Facilitator workshop participants will become familiar with the philosophy of Project WILD, participate in several of the activities, and learn how to lead their own teacher workshops. These facilitators will then be urged to conduct six- to eight-hour teacher workshops in their area. Teacher workshops will provide a hands-on experience with WILD and will help educators integrate the activities into their existing curricula or program. Teachers and those interested in using Project WILD materials must attend a workshop to receive one of the activity guides. Workshop participants will also receive a packet of resource materials containing information about West Virginia's wildlife.

The Department, as sponsor of the project, believes the program will develop a greater appreciation for and knowledge of wildlife and our other natural resources, and a better understanding of the relationship between these resources and people. In the long run, the Department believes this will result in more responsible public attitudes and actions toward our valuable natural resources. The program will be funded entirely by the Wildlife Resources Division.

A state advisory committee composed of professional educators, natural resource personnel, and others involved in environmental education met in June and approved a state implementation plan. The committee will guide implementation of Project WILD in West Virginia and periodically evaluate the project's effectiveness. Additional information regarding Project WILD will be included in future nongame wildlife newsletters.

The Department of Natural Resources offers its programs to people of all ages regardless of race, color, sex, religion, or national origin and is an equal opportunity employer.

Nongame Project Review

•Wildlife Calendar

Some of West Virginia's most talented artists are presenting their finest works for sportsmen and nature lovers alike in the second edition of the Department of Natural Resources' Wildlife Calendar. This colorful calendar covers the period from September 1986 through August 1987. Each month features a wildlife print suitable for framing. In addition, important information is noted on the appropriate days of each month, such as the best times to fish, sunrise-sunset times, hunting seasons, plant and animal natural history, and tips on attracting wildlife to your backyard. A portion of the calendar is devoted to articles on the wild turkey, fisher and otter reintroduction programs, fishing access sites, endangered wildlife, ospreys and a summary of WV's hunting and fishing regulations.

To order a copy of this calendar, complete and send in the order form that appears on the back of this issue of the "Nongame News." Remember, the proceeds will help support West Virginia's Nongame Wildlife Program.

•Nongame Wildlife Weekend

West Virginia's third annual Nongame Wildlife Weekend was held at Blackwater Falls State Park June 6-8. Over 240 people from four states attended, including 30 elementary and secondary school teachers sponsored through the Nongame Wildlife Fund.

A teacher workshop held Saturday morning featured environmental education activities and identification of salamanders and frogs. Students will benefit when the teachers use the knowledge and skills they learned from the weekend's activities in their classrooms.

In addition to the teacher workshop, experts gave presentations and led field trips on a variety of subjects including the native fish, freshwater mussels, snakes, and butterflies of West Virginia, cave ecology, nature trail design, wetland wildlife, nature photography, and rare wildflowers. Also featured at the event were educational displays and live exhibits of West Virginia's nongame wildlife.

Next year's event will again be held at Blackwater Falls State Park, June 5-7. Watch future issues of the "Nongame News" for more information.

photo credit: Steven Rotsch (AP)

•Osprey Project

The third year of West Virginia's osprey release program got underway with the arrival of 6 young birds from Virginia on June 30 and another 8 from Maryland on July 2. All 14 birds were immediately taken to a site on the South Branch of the Potomac and placed in newly constructed artificial nest boxes; the structures used in previous years had been washed away in the disastrous flooding of November 5. The young ospreys will be fed rough fish around the clock by volunteers of the Potomac Valley Audubon Society. If all goes well, in 2 to 3 weeks the ospreys will be ready to fly and leave their artificial homes to begin fishing for their own food. It is hoped that when the birds mature in 2 to 3 years they will return to West Virginia to raise their own young, thus establishing a permanent breeding population in the state.

•New Checklists Available

Two new checklists, one on West Virginia's mammals and the other on amphibians and reptiles, are now available from the Nongame Wildlife Program. In addition to common and scientific names of the 67 mammals that inhabit the Mountain State, the checklist also includes 5 line drawings, historical information on the state's mammals, and a brief explanation of how human activity has caused some populations to decrease and others to increase. The amphibians and reptiles checklist lists 85 species and includes a brief description of the basic characteristics of each group as well as a list of books to obtain for more specific information. To obtain these free checklists, write to the WV Nongame Wildlife Program.

•Small Research Grants

The Nongame Wildlife Program, as part of the Nongame Cooperative Projects program, will award two $500 research grants for 1987. College professors, students and others who can conduct scientifically sound research projects are invited to apply. Requests are not to exceed $500. A person or group may submit only one proposal. Proposals will be judged on the basis of scientific merit, compatability with the goals of the Nongame Wildlife Program, and qualifications of the research personnel.

Although all research proposals pertaining to nongame wildlife will be considered, priority will be given to projects which address the population status or natural history of nongame wildlife species deemed to be of "special concern" by the Wildlife Resources Division. A current list of these animals as well as specific details about application requirements will be provided upon request by writing: WV Species of Special Concern, Nongame Wildlife Program, P. O. Box 67, Elkins, WV 26241.

The deadline for submitting proposals is November 30, 1986. Grant recipients will be notified in February and projects must be completed in one year upon receipt of grant monies.

Home Builders of The New River Gorge

Ever wonder who built the first log cabins in the New River Gorge? You probably thought it was those early pioneers who came West across the Appalachians. Actually it was the aquatic larvae of a tiny insect called a caddis fly.

More than 750 different kinds of these larvae live in lakes, rivers, and streams throughout North America. With the skill of the best carpenters and stone masons, many caddis fly larvae construct tubelike cases which they carry around on their backs. These "Mobile Homes" are so distinctive that most species can be identified by the type of case they build.

The design of the case, as well as the materials used to build it, depends upon the surroundings. Those larvae living in the riffle area of a fast moving stream may use readily available stone or gravel to build a flat house in the shape of a turtle shell. This structure is glued to a larger rock on the stream bottom, thus making it nearly impossible for the current to wash it downstream.

Caddis flies living in quiet backwaters, where there is very little current, will usually build their homes out of bits of leaves and twigs which have settled to the bottom of the stream. With little need to be concerned about being washed downstream, these larvae will build elongated square or cylindrical tubes. As the insect outgrows its home, additions are made by carefully selecting just the right size, shape, and type of construction material. Each case provides protection from both the elements and hungry predators.

Next time you're wading in a cold stream pick up a rock from the bottom. If you notice a tiny cluster of pebbles adhered to it, you've more than likely discovered a caddis fly. Closer examination will reveal an exposed hard head and three pairs of legs attached to the insect's midsection. If you remove the case you will notice that the rest of the body is soft and mushy. A juicy morsel for any fish! Caddis fly larvae are such a favorite fish food that fishermen often use artificial bait that resembles them.

Caddis flies are also of interest to scientists. Many aquatic insect larvae (nymphs) require very specific water conditions in order to survive. One type may not be able to exist with certain chemicals or bacteria; another requires a certain level of oxygen; while a third may only be able to live in water at a specific temperature. Scientists who study aquatic environments refer to these insects an "indicator species," because their presence or absence can indicate the quality of the water which is being examined.

As construction engineers, fish food, and indicator species, caddis flies form an important part of the ecosystem within West Virginia's waters.

—New River Gorge Newspaper
Vol. 6, No. 1 1986
published by the National Park Service

reprinted from Flora of WV

Wild Foods of Appalachia

For all those interested in the identification and collection of natural foods, *Wild Foods of Appalachia* by William H. Gillespie is an essential addition to the library. This volume is primarily an updated version of the 1959 edition of *The Edible Wild Plants of West Virginia*, but the author has included several wild animals commonly used for food and additional edible plants that occur in the surrounding and southeastern states. Although not intended as a cookbook or encyclopedia of usages, the book contains descriptions and line drawings for over 200 plants and animals, and lists some uses for each. In addition, there is a short chapter on natural problems a forager or hunter may encounter in the wild, along with their remedies.

William H. Gillespie has been Assistant Commissioner of the WV Department of Agriculture since 1969. On July 11, 1985 he was also appointed as the state's first Director of Forestry. He has occupied the positions of Forest Biologist, and Assistant Director and State Director of Plant Pest Control. Educated in forestry, botany and geology, he has taught several courses at WVU since 1952 and has been a faculty member since 1956. To date, he has published 128 scientific articles and authored or co-authored several books of state interest.

Mr. Gillespie and his wife have generously donated royalties from *Wild Foods of Appalachia* to the WV Nongame Wildlife Program. The 160-page soft-cover publication is available from Seneca Books, Rt. 6, Box 81-B, Morgantown, WV 26505 for $7.95 plus 75¢ postage. For each additional copy, add 10¢ postage.

Attention Teachers

A new pre-school and kindergarten nature series is now available from the National Wildlife Federation. Entitled "Animals Up Close," this is the first early childhood training kit in "Your Big Backyard See and Do Nature Series." The self-contained nature discovery kit is prepared especially for pre-school and kindergarten teachers, children's librarians, and other early childhood educators.

Each item in the kit, developed by the National Wildlife Federation Conservation Education Staff in conjunction with early childhood specialists, is designed to motivate young learners to explore the difference among animals. In "Animals Up Close" are colorful photographs of wildlife, booklets with original illustrations of animals and children, and a step-by-step teaching guide. Twelve big color animal cards introduce children to the cardinal, cottontail rabbit, short-horned grasshopper, garter snake, bullfrog, white-footed mouse, blue gill, crayfish, raccoon, chipmunk, red fox and house sparrow.

Additional discovery kits will be published in the coming months. Titles include: "Animals and Their Young," "Animals that Swim," and "Animals that Fly." This first kit may be obtained from The National Wildlife Federation, 1412 16th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036. Send $12.95 per kit plus $1.55 for shipping and handling. Please specify the item number 76006EV and the title "Animals Up Close."

Endangered Species Notes

- Three new winter hibernating colonies of the endangered Indiana bat were found during the 1986 winter bat surveys; 2 in West Virginia and one in New York. The new New York colony marks the northernmost hibernating site known for this bat.

A colony of about 3,000 individuals of West Virginia's other endangered bat, the Virginia big-eared, was found at a site that once housed bats in the past but had been abandoned in recent years. This is the largest winter concentration of big-eared bats known in the East.

- The Midwestern population of least terns and three subspecies of beach mice found along the Gulf Coast have been added to the federal endangered species list. An estimated 1400 to 1800 least terns exist in the Midwest. Flooding, channelization and the construction of reservoirs along the Mississippi and its tributaries have destroyed much of this ground nester's breeding habitat. The three varieties of beach mice include the Perdido Key beach mouse which, with only 26 known to exist, is considered the nation's rarest mammal. To protect these mice, 31 miles of Gulf coast dunes in Florida and Alabama have been classified as "critical habitat," a designation that protects habitats needed for the continued existence of an endangered species.

—Bob Mitchell, PA Game News
Vol. 57, No. 1, pg. 54

- The fourth of five male dusky seaside sparrows captured in 1980, as a last ditched effort to save the endangered bird from extinction, recently died of old age. Because no female duskys have been known to exist for years, the male sparrows were captured and bred with a closely related species in an attempt to eventually produce a nearly pure strain of duskys. The cross breeding program was started at the Florida State Museum and has since been transferred to Walt Disney World's Discovery Island Zoo. In 1985, two 87.5 percent dusky females were produced. This spring an attempt was made to breed them with the lone surviving male-- which is 12 years old and no longer very fertile. If successful, the resulting offspring will be 93.75 percent dusky, thus carrying on at least some of the birds genetic traits in future generations.

—Bob Mitchell, PA Game News
Vol. 57, No. 3, pg. 64

Habitat Hint

Birdbaths: Wooing Wildlife With Wetness

by Craig Tufts

Wildlife has simple needs: food, shelter, and water. For some reason many wildlife lovers faithfully tend to the needs of food and shelter (seed, suet, birdhouses and evergreens) and forget the easiest service: the provision of water. Perhaps they sincerely believe that wildlife naturally finds ponds and streams to drink from and bathe in. There are often few such natural water sources in most urban and suburban areas.

Since water is as vital to wildlife as it is to human life, providing a source close to home is one sure-fire way to draw wildlife to your yard. Let's for the moment by-pass the more complicated types of water provisions such as ponds, pools and fountains, and talk about the simplest source, birdbaths.

Any shallow container will do — from a ½-inch deep, 6 to 8-inch wide saucer (such as a flower pot base) to a traditional 2-2½-foot pedestal-mounted birdbath (light enough in weight to be easily tilted to clean). Fill it with plain tap water (no additives, please!). Since it's useful for both drinking and bathing, keep it clean, hosing it with a pressure nozzle and/or using a small scrub brush every 2 or 3 days.

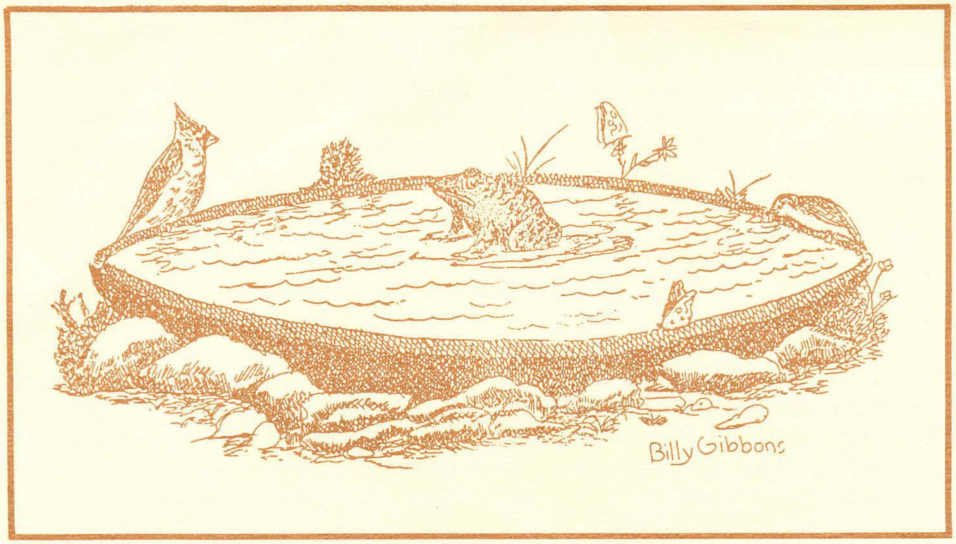
What kind of wildlife will be drawn to your water supply? Mostly birds; but also squirrels and, in some areas, raccoons, opossums, groundhogs, chipmunks and other mammals who come mainly to drink. Butterflies come too, to perch on the edge for a drink, and frogs, to climb in and sit.

Visitation partly depends on where the water supply is placed. Water set right on the ground probably attracts the greatest variety of wildlife. It also has the advantages of being easy to clean and of affording the least chance of breakage or perhaps upset by the heavier animals.

Providing water through the winter for wildlife presents special problems. We'll look at that topic in a future column.

If one birdbath can make some wildlife feel welcome, think what several different kinds of birdbaths can draw to your yard! The bath-taking birds may particularly like the pedestal-mounted bath that sits in the sun near protecting foliage (for escape in case a predator shows up). The toad will probably opt for the bath set in the flower bed or in the shade of low ground cover. The chipmunk and other wary animals may enjoy a water source only if it's well concealed among or in shrubbery. Besides serving wildlife well, a variety of birdbaths adds to your own pleasure of daily viewing several reflective small pools of water dotting your personal landscape.

—from The Backyard Naturalist



The Eastern Chipmunk

Chipmunks are small ground-dwelling rodents. They are common from Quebec south to Florida and west to Louisiana and North Dakota. Chipmunks have characteristic markings that make them easy to distinguish from other members of the squirrel family. Two white stripes, one above and one below the eye, adorn the short, round head. Five black lines stripe the back: two on each side, separated by a white or buff band which contains the fifth black stripe down the middle of the back. The ears are short, rounded and held erect. The flattened tail is well-haired, blackish above, rust below, and fringed in white or gray. Both sexes are alike in color and size, being 8½ to 9½ inches long and weighing 2½ to 4 ounces. Their front feet are adapted for holding and eating food while sitting upright. The front teeth are chisel-shaped, a characteristic of all rodents.

Chipmunks inhabit deciduous (hardwood) forests where there is a thick vegetative understory and old logs or stone ledges. In open stands with little or no cover, chipmunks are most often found on rocky hillsides and living in crevices of stone walls. They are frequently seen in parks and around gardens and lawns.

Chipmunks seem more common than other members of the rodent order because they are diurnal (active during the day). Most activity, however, takes place during the cooler hours of the morning and afternoon. Excessive heat and inclement weather will hamper normal activities. These rodents are highly aggressive toward intruders, and readily defend the immediate area around their den entrance. Their defense is more vocal than violent. You have probably heard the chipmunk's loud "chuck, chuck chuck" call.

Chipmunks are omniverous, feeding on both plant and animal material. Acorns, beechnuts, seeds of woody plants, berries of American Yew, ragweed, wintergreen, Canada mayflower, clover and wild buckwheat are among the major plant foods consumed. Sometimes mushrooms, sunflower seeds, watermelon, apples, and squash are also eaten. Animal food consists of insects, worms, salamanders and occasionally starnosed moles, young mice, small songbirds and frogs. Chipmunks have specially adapted internal cheek pouches which allow them to carry large amounts of food at one time. These pouches are used when caching (to conceal or hide for future use) food for winter consumption and are emptied by squeezing them with their front feet. On occasion, they eat food on the spot, often at a favorite stump or rock which becomes littered with broken nut shells and fruit seeds. Much time is spent in late summer and fall gathering and storing nuts and other seeds for the winter.

When not occupied with food-gathering or territorial defense, chipmunks sleep in their underground burrows. Burrow entrances are neat round holes, usually two inches or less in diameter. They are often located under a rotten log, stump or rock. From the entrance, the burrow plunges straight down for a few inches and then descends more gradually until it levels out at a depth of about three feet. During burrow excavation, soil is carried away from the entrance in cheek pouches used to carry food. Because of this, there is little or no evidence of excavated material from the subterranean burrow system. Within four or five years, an average chipmunk's burrow may be extended to a length of thirty feet, have several openings, and may contain up to six chambers. In late October or November, chipmunks retire to their dens, plugging up the entrance hole. They are not true hibernators, though some may sleep for long periods of time during the cold winter months. They store food rather than fat, and must wake up often to eat. Mild weather during mid-winter may entice them out of their dens for short periods of time.

Chipmunks emerge to breed in late February and early March. There are two breeding seasons annually: spring and summer. During the spring season, the older females, yearlings and females born the previous summer season will breed. During the summer season, late July to August, yearlings who did not mate in spring and a few of the three-month-old females may also breed. Older females may produce two litters per year. Most young are sexually mature at one year old. After a 31-day gestation period, four or five (from one to eight) young are born. Young chipmunks are blind and naked at birth. They spend a month in the burrow system before leaving the den.

Chipmunks rarely climb trees except to escape from predators, or to gather food. They spend almost all of their entire lives in an area usually less than a half-acre, and often no more than 12, 000 square feet. Travel of 75 yards or greater from the den would be considered exceptional. The outer fringes of individual home ranges often overlap with other chipmunks. Except during the breeding season, chipmunks are solitary, living in separate dens. Predators of chipmunks include: man, hawks, mink, raccoons, weasels, martens, foxes, bobcats, coyotes, red squirrels, cats and large snakes.

In their natural habitat, chipmunks compete with and complement the natural community of plants and animals. They compete with gray, red and flying squirrels, grouse, deer, turkeys, mice, and other mast (acorn, beechnut and other forest nuts) eating animals for food. When excessive amounts of food are stored and left in the ground there is perhaps less for other wildlife, but forest tree species

Continued from page 5

are regenerated when these stored seeds sprout. Chipmunks on occasion prey on birds' eggs or nestlings.

Chipmunks are enjoyable to watch, but when they move into urban settings they may conflict with man's interest. They dig up garden seeds and have been accused of snitching flower bulbs. Chipmunks get into camps and homes on occasion and can cause limited structural damage. Burrow entrances in lawns, rock gardens, stone walls and near foundations may also be objectionable. In many instances, however, any disturbance is offset by the pleasing antics of these alert animals.

Live trapping and relocating chipmunks with small commercial or homemade box traps provides a humane way to resolve problems. Baits attractive to chipmunks include peanut butter, nut meats, sunflower seeds, oats, bacon and apple slices. Once trapped, they can be moved and released unharmed away from the problem site. Relocation should be done in remote forest areas five or more miles from the site where they were captured.

Due to their popularity and high visibility, this amusing animal was chosen as the symbol for the West Virginia Nongame Wildlife Program.

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
Publication #WRL 1004
September 1981

Eastern Chipmunk

Tamias striatus

Jewelweed

by Donna Burks
Wildlife Resources Division

Jewelweed, with related names, is a very wide-ranging plant that occurs from Newfoundland to Alaska and south to Florida. Since this plant requires damp soil, it is most commonly found along the banks of streams and lakes.

Two species of jewelweed are common in West Virginia: one a pale yellow and the other orange with reddish-brown spots. Jewelweeds are tender, succulent, pale green plants that attain a maximum height of five feet and often grow in extensive stands. Jewelweed's leaves are unwettable. Immersion in water turns them a shiney silver and, following a shower, the drooping leaves are bedecked with glistening water beads — thus the basis for the plant's common name.

Touch-me-not and snap weed, also common names, refer to this plant's curious method of seed dispersal. Ripe seed pods rupture when the sensitive hair trigger at the end of the capsule is touched. The slipper-shaped seed pod curls backward with an audible snap, scattering its seeds to distances of up to four feet.

Jewelweed is well-known to many poison ivy sufferers. The colorless sap exuded from a broken stem is reputed to be an effective poison ivy treatment. Upon exposure to poison ivy, one need only rub the affected area with a juicy jewelweed poultice and poisoning will be prevented. After blisters form, many maintain that jewelweed relieves the itching. Whether this phenomenon is due to a true antidote or merely the cleansing effect of the sap is still a mystery.

Jewelweed is also worth its weight in gold to the ruby-throated hummingbird. This hummingbird is the only one seen regularly in the Mountain State. Adult males possess a brilliant ruby-red iridescent throat patch that gives the bird its name. Both sexes are white below with brassy, metallic green backs which, combined with their small size (less than four inches), set them apart from other West Virginia birds.

Despite its diminutive size, this bird has the stamina to complete the annual migration from its tropical wintering quarters in Mexico to its Canadian breeding grounds. In addition to facing the perils which beset other migratory birds, the hummingbird's small size makes it susceptible to hazards uniquely its own. Accounts of hummingbirds becoming impaled on thistle or entangled in spider webs have been noted by ornithologists.

Frost is a threat to the ruby-throat's survival as it can eliminate its food source. Almost exclusively nectar-feeders, these birds are dependent upon flowers for food. Jewelweed is the wild plant most abundant in its usual nesting areas, near or over water. Jewelweed remains available throughout the hummer's breeding season; it blooms in our state from June through October. This provides sufficient time for the ruby-throat to fledge two young birds from its tiny nest made from the webs of spiders and decorated with lichen.

A summer stroll along one of West Virginia's streams or river banks can provide something for the whole family. Children delight in popping jewelweed seed pods and all will enjoy a glimpse of the ruby-throated hummingbird as it hovers motionlessly between a blur of wings extracting nectar from the delicate blossoms.

Reprinted from Flora of WV

Laboratory Tests Seek Cause Of Death Of Young Bald Eagle in Virginia

The U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) is conducting laboratory analyses to determine the cause of death of a young bald eagle found in a Virginia cornfield that was recently treated with the insecticide carbofuran.

The one-year-old eagle, banded in Virginia last May, was found close to a dead raccoon April 17 in Essex County with its wings outspread and head tucked in. A large number of feathers from both mature and immature bald eagles were also found nearby. Witnesses reported having seen three or four eagles feeding on the raccoon. The farmer told an USFWS law enforcement agent that he had run over the dead raccoon while planting corn and applying granules of carbofuran. The eagle carcass was turned over to the USFWS agent a few days later by a state biologist. Its appearance was normal. Laboratory reports on another bald eagle found dead last year at the base of its nest located near Varini, Virginia, concluded that it died from carbofuran poisoning. The insecticide carbofuran is widely used across the country on several crops including corn, alfalfa, tobacco, rice, and sugar cane. Research studies have documented that carbofuran has caused the death of songbirds, water fowl, doves, and pheasants, as well as the hawks and owls that feed upon them. Registration of the insecticide is currently under special review by the Environmental Protection Agency because of its hazards to fish and wildlife.

Bald eagle populations have been recovering throughout the United States. In 1985, 65 pairs of eagles produced 84 young in Virginia, their best year since record keeping began 25 years ago.

WEST VIRGINIA NONGAME NEWS
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Ronald R. Potesta
Director, Department of Natural Resources

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Chief, Wildlife Resources Division

Kathleen Carothers
Editor

Ideas for articles are welcomed

Second Edition of WV Wildlife Calendar

Orders are now being taken for the second edition of the WV Wildlife Calendar. The 14 x 22 inch calendar features paintings by WV artists with a description of each animal. In addition, the calendar includes information on wild flowers, bird migration, hunting and fishing, plus a wealth of additional wildlife facts concerning both game and nongame animals. The calendar runs from September 1986 through August 1987 and sells for $5.25 each plus 50¢ shipping. However, if you use the special form from the 1985-1986 calendar, total cost will only be $5.00. Proceeds will help support the Nongame Wildlife Program.

WEST VIRGINIA NONGAME NEWS

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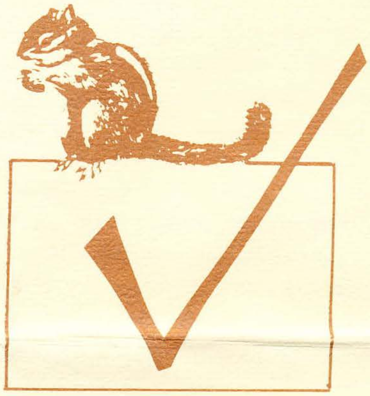
New Nongame T-Shirts

This spring the Nongame Program is offering a new T-shirt design featuring the Program's logo — the chipmunk, in addition to the screech owls. Both styles are available in adult sizes S, M, L and XL and children's 2-4, 6-8, 10-12 and 14-16. Colors and styles are variable according to size. Adult T-shirts are $6.25 and children's $5.00 postpaid. Simply send a check or money order made out to the WV Department of Natural Resources, along with size and color choice (substitutions may be necessary), to T-shirt, WV Dept. of Natural Resources, Nongame Unit, P. O. Box 67, Elkins, WV 26241.

Remember to DO SOMETHING WILD! and support the West Virginia Nongame Wildlife Program.

"Check-off" Line 8 on your WV Income Tax Form.



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